आई० ओ० सी० द्वारा गैर-सरकारी रिफाइनरियों से पेट्रोलियम उत्पादों की खरीद

431. **श्री शिबू सोरेन:** क्या **पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या इंडियन आयल कार्पोरेशन लिमिटेड द्वारा गैर-सरकारी रिफाइनरियों से पेट्रोलियम पदार्थ नियमित रूप से खरीदे जाते हैं;

(ख) यदि हां, तो पिछले पांच वर्षों से गैर-सरकारी रिफाईनरियों से पेट्रोलियम पदार्थों की खरीद का वर्ष-वार ब्यौरा क्या है एवं इनके मूल्यों का ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ग) व्यवसायिक दृष्टि से इंडियन आयल कार्पोरेशन को इस खरीद का औचित्य क्या है?

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री संतोष कुमार गंगवार): (क) आई० ओ० सी० ने भारत में किसी निजी रिफाइनरी से पेट्रोलियम उत्पादों की खरीद अब तक नहीं की है।

(ख) और (ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Deeper water level in Gujarat

432. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that searches for drinking water with pipes are going down deeper and deeper levels at almost a kilometer and a half at some places in Gujarat particularly in the rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that pumps hauling water from such depths are also sucking up fluoride, arsenic and other poisons affecting adversely the people drinking such water;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the remedial measures Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Over exploitation of ground water, mainly for irrigation purposes has led to falling ground water table in some parts of the country, including in Gujarat.

(c) and (d) The depletion of ground water level has been one of the contributory factors for the quality problems like excess fluoride, arenic and brackishness etc. in the drinking water.

(e) States are encouraged to take up schemes to provide safe water in quality affected habitations under the various sub-mission projects, including water treatment plants, alternate supply of water from safe sources, domestic filters etc.

Rationalisation of JRY and Employment Assurance Scheme

433. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to rationalise the Jawahar Rozgar Yojna and Employment Assurance Scheme to improve complimentary role of these two programmes, as reported in the Hindustan Times, dated 24th June, 1998;

(b) whether Government have enhanced the provisions for maintenance under above mentioned schemes from 10 per cent to 15 per cent and also empowered the Gram Panchayats to sanction works upto Rs. 20,000/- annually; and

(c) if so, since when these enhancement and sanctions have become effective in Rajasthan and Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL): (a) to (c) Certain proposals for strengthening of Jawahar Rojgar Yojana (JRY) are under active consideration. These include the proposals mentioned in part (b) of the question. A decision is yet to be taken.